

INFORMATIVE REPORT

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SUBJECT Russian CB in Thuringia

CONFIDENTIAL

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Large numbers of troops arrived at Ohrdruf (J-15) during the latter half of March 1948. On 16 March, two armored regiments returned to Ohrdruf from Eisenach. They had previously been stationed at Ohrdruf as late as 28 February 1948. The two regiments consisted of a total of 1,048 officers and men, seventy T-34 tanks, and forty-nine trucks.

On 22 March 1948, forty T-34 tanks, forty-nine trucks, and 508 officers and men arrived at the Ohrdruf training area from the direction of Halle. All the barracks in Ohrdruf, Jecha, Sondershausen, Arnstadt, and other towns in the area were filled with Russian infantrymen during March. Schools, halls, and hospitals were also being requisitioned as billets.

3. It is estimated that 500 heavy guns and 300 light guns, including 150 mm. AA guns, are based on the Ohrdruf training area. The employment offices of various Thuringian towns, including Arnstadt (J-25), are conscripting men and women for trench digging in the woods.
4. Toward the end of March 1948, large numbers of troops arrived at Jena (J-66). The Lobstedt barracks were occupied by a unit equipped with thirty to forty Josef Stalin 3's and seventy to eighty T-34 tanks. Asiatic troops are quartered in villages around Jena. It is estimated that 16,000 Mongolian troops have arrived in that city.

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